



REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-51 are pending. Claim 52 has been canceled.

Claims 1-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pan (US2004/0004753) in view of Huibers et al. (6,529,310).

As amended, all the pending claims of the subject application comply with all requirements of 35 U.S.C. Accordingly, applicants request examination and allowance of all pending claims.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Applicants respectfully submit that because Pan is listed in the priority chain of the present application, Pan is not a proper prior art reference for the pending application. Among other priority claims, the present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/378,058, filed February 27, 2003, which published as U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0004753. Therefore, because the present application properly claims priority to Pan, Pan is not a proper prior art reference. For at least these reasons, the pending claims are in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,


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